

ACENTROPUS IN AMERICA (LEPIDOPTERA, PYRALIDIDÆ)

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I took a fresh male of *Acentropus niveus* Olivier at light, at the Alfalfa Snout-Beetle Experiment Station, Minetto, N. Y., June 22, 1938. So far as I can find out this is the first record for North America.

The moth is easily distinguished from any other local Pyralid by the translucent white wings and contrasting drooping blackish palpi. Structurally it belongs to the Schoenobiinæ, with tongue obsolete, 1st A preserved toward margin in forewing, and no fringe on base of Cu of hind wing. In this subfamily it is unique in having the spurs of middle and hind tibiæ rudimentary, and M_1 of hind wing widely separated from the upper angle of the cell.

The life history is well known in Europe, and is absolutely unique; the larva forms a case—much like the Nymphulinæ, but cylindrical—and feeds on submerged plants; most female moths are wingless, and live wholly under water, only coming to the surface to mate, but an occasional female is winged, much like the male, and doubtless serves to distribute the species to new stations. Accounts may be found in Die Süßwasserfauna Deutschlands viii, p. 149, by Grünberg, and in most other European works on aquatic life.

The wing form is obviously variable. The present specimen has pointed wings, as figured by Hampson (Proc. Zool. Soc., 1895, 919) but the winged pair in our collection has them much more rounded, as figured by Grünberg.